REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

Claims 1-29 have been examined. Claims 2, 9-11, 14, 15, 22-25, 27, and 29 have been finally rejected. It is noted with appreciation that claims 1, 3-8, 12, 13, 16-21, 26, and 28 have been allowed. Claims 2, 9-11, 14, 15, 22-25, 27, and 29 are being cancelled in the present response. Accordingly, claims 1, 3-8, 12, 13, 16-21, 26, and 28 would remain pending after entry of the present amendment. Entry of the present amendment after final, reconsideration, and allowance of the case are respectfully requested.

The Examiner has objected to Figures 5 and 8. A proposed drawing correction to these Figures is submitted herewith. The objection is overcome and its withdrawal is respectfully requested.

To expedite prosecution, the claims that stand rejected under prior art have been cancelled. Thus only previously allowed claims remain in the case and there are no further issues related to prior art.

Conclusion:

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant believes all the pending claims are in condition for allowance and should be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone conference would in any way expedite the prosecution of the application, please do not hesitate to call the undersigned at (408) 446-8694.

Respectfully submitted,

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